

# Studio Newsletter

August 20, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 8

## Special points of interest:

- Our next meeting is Thursday, September 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the Studio
- A special thanks to Kay Bernier and Molly Hale for taking the photographs in this month's newsletter

## September Meeting Event

Kay Bernier will bring the PIP postcards to the meeting so we can all help stamp and address them. This is a major effort in advertising Pottery in the Park every year. Kay needs our help with this task.

## August Raku Party

You missed a great party if you missed the August meeting. Don demo'd his firing technique and how he determines when each piece is ready to be pulled from the kiln. He also showed us how to apply horsehair and feathers to unglazed pots to create the lovely, decorative black lines on the surface of the pots. Participating members successfully fired some pieces following Don's instructions.



## August Mini Show Results

Congratulations to Barbara Baker and Don Hudnall who won first and second prizes at our Mini Show. The Studio paid \$50 to the first prize piece, but both pieces will be featured on the PIP advertising postcards.



First Prize  
Barbara Baker



Second Prize  
Don Hudnall

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## Studio Classes

Rachel's current wheel class started Monday, Aug 11. Holly's next hand-building class starts Wednesday, Sept 3; the sign-up sheet is on the back of the front door.

We have experienced last minute problems filling some of our classes and need to change the way we get payment/commitments before the start of each session. Starting with the October classes, Sharon Wetherby and/or Barbara

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## Studio Classes (cont'd)

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Baker will be available at the Monthly Meeting prior to start of each class to register students and collect class fees. We will continue to post sign-up sheets on the door, and students can still pay class fees at the Accounting Office in the Clubhouse. Students should come to the Monthly Meeting either to pay for the class at that time or to provide a copy of their receipt showing payment. Students who are unable to attend the meeting should contact Sharon Wetherby, (817) 926-9828, or Barbara Baker, (817) 729-0824, to make other arrangements.

Our classes need to meet a minimum enrollment of six students to make a class. Classes that cannot meet this minimum will need to be rescheduled. Hopefully this will make our classes run a little smoother. It's not fair to either the students or the instructors to have to cancel a class on the first night of classes because students who signed up on the sheets did not show for class.

## August Meeting Minutes



For the August meeting, we met outside in the Raku Yard. Don called the meeting to order around 7:15 pm after several minutes of explanation about the horsehair raku firings that he would be demonstrating. The minutes from the July meeting were accepted as published. Lee Bell showed our guest, Pat Burnam, around the studio.

**Newsletter Status.** Sharon can still use articles for the newsletter. If anyone has something they'd like to see published, send an e-mail to Sharon by the 15th of each month.

**Publicity.** Barbara Baker has submitted the flyer for Potter in the Park (PIP)

and an article for the *Lockheed Martin Recreation Area Newspaper*. She also has made sample cards for members to place in their bowls for the Tarrant Area Food Bank's Empty Bowls Event. The cards look very nice and state that the piece was made and donated by the LMRA Pottery Studio.

**Web Site.** Not much new with the web site, but Molly asks all members to send photos of their work for publishing in the gallery.

**Glaze Committee Report.** Carole said that they have tested some of the stains from Bridget Hauser's workshop. A tip for best results: Don't apply the stain too thick, and wipe the piece down for the colors to show "true." We have red iron, black iron, and rutile for you to try out.

We are not using Kiln #1 at all until the lid is replaced. After a new lid is in-

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### Studio Calendar

- Sept—Stamp/mail postcards for PIP
- Oct—Studio cleanup & PIP
- Nov—Texturing on tiles
- Dec—Christmas party

### Studio Classes

- **Classes will not meet unless at least 6 students have registered/paid prior to first class**
- **Sign-up sheets are posted at the studio**
- **Attend the meeting just before start of class to register and pay class fee**

# August Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

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stalled, we will use this kiln for bisque firings only. Jim Harley is trying to locate a used lid that will fit Kiln #1. Jim repaired Kiln #2 by installing a new thermocouple; he recommended that we repair some of the damaged firebrick.

**New Business.** Pottery in the Park (PIP) is just two months away, and we need volunteers! We need volunteers for putting up the banner prior to the show, people to man the food table and the raffle table during the show for the following shifts: 9:00 am—noon, noon—3:00 pm, and 3:00—6:00 pm. Sharon volunteered to assist Don with the Raku firings during the show, but I'm sure they would appreciate the relief if others are interested in helping with the Raku.

Application forms for PIP are at the studio. You can pick up one for yourself as well as take extras to pass around to others who might want to have a booth. The entry fee is \$30 per artist for the whole show. Great Deal!!! We also need folks to get busy throwing cylinder-shaped pots for the Raku sales. We have two 25-pound bags of clay and some recycled pugged clay under the glaze table that you can use for throwing pieces for PIP.

Holly's next hand-building class begins on September 3 and is full already. Let Holly know or put a note on the sign-up sheet at the studio if you're interested in the next class. She can contact you about the next class prior to registration.

Barbara Baker and Don Hudnall were the winners of the mini show. We all decided to put two pieces on the PIP card for this year. It will look great!

We didn't do a pot draw this time because everyone was so wrapped up in the firings. You are missing out on some great learning and creating experiences if you're not attending these meetings! We had a lot of fun applying horsehair and feathers to the hot pots at this demo. A special thanks to Don for presenting this program to the membership.

## Tip from Ceramics Arts Dailey

**Pinning Parallel Lines ~ Submitted to Ceramics Arts Dailey by Ken Magee, Tallahassee, Florida.**



I became frustrated by not being able to draw parallel lines in curves or arcs on my work when it is leather hard. If I tried to draw the lines separately, it would never work, and even if I held two tools at once, one would always wander. I found that a clothespin actually performs this task wonderfully. I sharpen the ends you use as a handle (if you were actually using it as a clothespin) and use these points to draw the lines. They are held at a consistent distance apart, and are infinitely adjustable between open and closed. To adjust the space between the points, I put various small cylindrical objects in the groove of the "mouth" of the pin (pen caps, pencils, dowels). The larger the object in the mouth, the closer the lines become. This tool has become a staple in our studio.

## Volunteers Needed

- **PIP weekend is almost here—October 11 & 12**
- **Come help stamp post-cards at the Sept meeting**
- **Volunteer to work a shift at PIP**
- **Artist Registration forms are on our web site**
- **Artist fee is a low \$30 per person**

## Event Notices

**8/30—11/30, Exhibit: Warren MacKenzie: *The Legacy of an American Potter.*** Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 4848 Main, Houston, TX, [www.crafthouston.org/](http://www.crafthouston.org/) This comprehensive retrospective presents seminal works produced by Warren MacKenzie over a fifty-year period (1948—2006). Representing various styles, forms and approaches to the art of clay, this exhibit will undoubtedly shed new light on the life and work of one of America's foremost studio potters. MacKenzie's life and work reflects the changing role of the ceramic artist in society, from the early modern philosophy of producing works for industry to the emergence of the individual studio potter in the 1950's.

This exhibition traces the art of MacKenzie through works on loan from over thirty institutional and individual collections. The exhibition explores his development as a potter from his early studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago to his unique experiences working with the world-renowned ceramic artists Bernard Leach and Shoji Hamada. The exhibition will present over 350 works, an audio station, photographs, didactic materials, films, gallery guide and a fully illustrated catalogue with essays by Rob Silberman and Catherine Futter.

**9/6—9/28, A Letter from Warren.** 14 Clay Artists inspired by Warren MacKenzie have their opening reception Saturday, 9/6, from 6:00—9:00 pm at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. This will be the first national show which is being presented in conjunction with two important exhibitions and features the work of Linda Christianson, Jeff Oestreich, Robert Briscoe, Tim Crane, Randy Johns-

ton, Jan McKeachie, Lisa Buck, Sequoia Miller, Guillermo Cuellar, Paul Dresang, Connee Mayeron, Mike Norman, Dick Cooter, and Jim Grittner. Light refreshments will be served.

**9/2—9/30, Clay Artist Janis Ross & Fiber Artist Mary Welch.** Houston Potters Guild Shop and Gallery, 2726 White Oak Drive, Houston, TX [www.houstonpotters.com](http://www.houstonpotters.com)

**9/26—9/28, Workshop: Leigh Leitson.** Dallas Craft Guild, 14325 Proton Rd, Dallas, TX, (972) 490-0303. Workshop: \$300, Fri & Sat 9:30—5:00 pm; Sun 9:30—3:00 pm. Slide Lecture free & open to the public Fri @ 7:30 pm [www.craftguildofdallas.com](http://www.craftguildofdallas.com)

**10/11—10/12, LMRA's 7th Annual Pottery in the Park.** Lockheed Martin Recreation Area, 3400 Bryant-Irvin Road, Fort Worth TX. Eclectic pottery will be on display and available for purchase. Don Hudnall will give a hands-on Raku firing demonstration during both days. Details and artist registration forms are available on the LMRA Potters Studio web site: [www.lmrapotterystudio.com](http://www.lmrapotterystudio.com)

**10/25—10/26, Texas Clay Festival 2008.** This year is the 16th annual Texas Clay Festival held in historic Gruene, TX (four miles north of New Braunfels). The festival is held Rain or Shine on the grounds of Buck Pottery. This year's show will feature over fifty fine, Texas artists working in clay today. The artists will be demonstrating throughout both days, and admission is free. For more information, call the Buck Pottery in Gruene at (830) 629-7975 or visit the Texas Clay Festival's website: [www.texasclayfestival.com](http://www.texasclayfestival.com)

## Coming Events

- Warren MacKenzie exhibition in Houston
- Janis Ross & Mary Welch in Houston
- Leigh Leitson Workshop at the Dallas Craft Guild
- LMRA's Annual Pottery in the Park
- Texas Clay Festival in Gruene

## **Warren MacKenzie: Legacy of an American Potter and Inspired: Students of Warren MacKenzie**

**August 30 – November 30, 2008**

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is pleased to celebrate ceramics and functional pottery with two concurrent exhibitions this fall: *Warren MacKenzie: Legacy of an American Potter* (in the Large Gallery) and *Inspired: Students of Warren MacKenzie* (in the Small Gallery), on view from August 30 to November 30, 2008.

*Warren MacKenzie: Legacy of an American Potter* presents a comprehensive retrospective of seminal works by Warren MacKenzie, a true master of 20th Century ceramic art. Representing various styles, forms and approaches to the art of clay, the exhibition sheds new light on the life and work of one of America's foremost studio potters.

MacKenzie's work reflects the changing role of the ceramic artist in society—from the early modern philosophy of producing works for industry to the emergence of the individual studio potter in the 1950s. The exhibition traces the artist's artwork over a 58-year period (1948-2006) and explores his development as a potter, beginning with his early studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and covering his unique experiences working with the world-renowned ceramic artists Bernard Leach and Shoji Hamada.

*Inspired: Students of Warren MacKenzie* showcases the work of seven contemporary artists who have studied with, and been inspired by, master ceramist Warren MacKenzie. Over 35 pots, vases, bowls and teapots by artists Wayne Branum, Tim Crane, Jan McKeachie Johnston, Randy Johnston, Mark Pharis, Michael Simon and Sandy Simon reveal contemporary functional pottery at its best.

In conjunction with the exhibitions at HCCC, two other Houston galleries will showcase artists influenced by Warren MacKenzie. The O'Kane Gallery at University of Houston-Downtown will feature *Ishmael Soto, From Clay to Metal*, from August 28 – September 25, 2008, and 18 Hands Gallery will present *A Letter from Warren*, a group show featuring nine ceramic artists, from September 6 – 28, 2008.

HCCC Executive Director Julie Farr said, "Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is proud to celebrate the profound influence Warren MacKenzie has had on the contemporary studio pottery movement and so many generations of artists. Through these wonderful exhibitions, collaborations and related events, we hope to demonstrate the ripple effect of MacKenzie's life and work in a way that is both scholarly and accessible."

*Warren MacKenzie: Legacy of an American Potter* was organized by The Rochester Art Center in Rochester, Minnesota. *Inspired: Students of Warren MacKenzie* was organized by HCCC in conjunction with Randy Johnston.

HCCC has received generous support for these exhibitions from Trinity Ceramics, Clay Houston, Isabel and Wallace Wilson, Steve Uchytel and the Greater Austin Clay Artists.





**Potter's Studio**  
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<http://www.lmra.org/>

**Stay Centered**

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

<http://lmrapotterystudio.com/>

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The fully-equipped Potter's Studio is open seven days a week during LMRA hours. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. unless notified otherwise. Classes are held on Mondays and Tuesdays in the Pottery Studio. Membership Fee: \$60 Individual; \$120 Guest.

**2007 Officers**

President ..... Don Hudnall, 817-676-4134 ([donhudnall@att.net](mailto:donhudnall@att.net))  
Vice President ... Carole Standridge, ([claylady1035@earthlink.net](mailto:claylady1035@earthlink.net))  
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**Committees**

Firing Committee: Various  
Glaze Committee: Carole Standridge  
Holiday Party: Mike Sawatzky  
Pottery-in-the-Park: Kay Bernier  
Workshops: Orby Chamblee  
Empty Bowls: Barb Throne

**Newsletter**

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**Yahoo Groups**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LMRAPottery/>

To send an e-mail to the group: [LMRAPottery@yahoogroups.com](mailto:LMRAPottery@yahoogroups.com)

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